

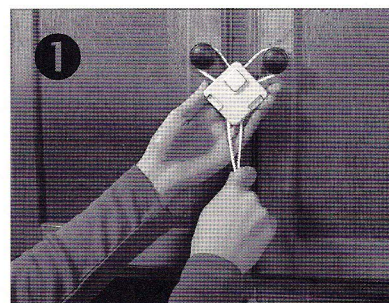
# Keeping Children Safe at Home

There are many dangers in homes that could hurt or even kill a child. The good news is that you can find and fix these things.

## Be Safe from Fire

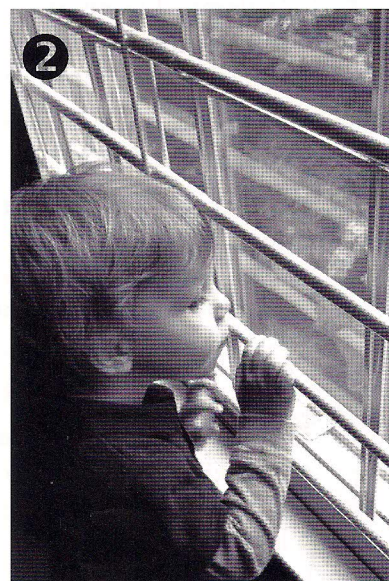
- Make sure a working smoke alarm is inside or near every bedroom. Test each smoke alarm every month to make sure it is working. Put new batteries in your smoke alarms once a year or if they “chirp” to let you know the battery is low.
- Plan and practice a family fire drill to make sure everyone knows what to do when the alarm goes off. Children often sleep through the sound of a smoke alarm. They will need you to wake them up and help them get outside to safety. Plan for this in your fire drill.
- Lock up all matches and lighters where children cannot see or touch them.

### Picture 1



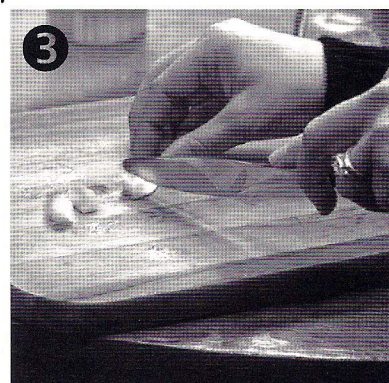
## Be Safe from Falls

- Have window guards or window stops on upper windows. **Picture 2** These can keep a child from falling out. But make sure you can open the window fast from inside the room in case of a fire.
- Cover the ground under playground equipment with a thick layer (9 to 12 inches deep) of mulch, wood chips or other safety material.



## Be Safe from Choking

- Children can choke on small things. If something is small enough to fit in a toilet paper roll, it is not safe for very young children. Look in every room of your home and pick up small things like buttons, coins, jewelry, small toys and magnets. Put them away so children won't swallow them.
- Be very careful with small, round foods like peanuts, hot dogs and grapes. Cut these and other food into small bites, about the size of a dime. **Picture 3** Always make sure that children sit down when they eat.



## Be Safe from Poisons

- Know the things in your home that are poison. The label will say “Caution,” “Warning,” “Danger,” or “Keep out of reach of children.” Lock these things away, using child safety locks or latches.
- If someone takes poison, call 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. These numbers will connect you to emergency help in your area. Keep the numbers near every phone.
- Install a carbon monoxide (CO) detector near where your family sleeps. It will warn you if too much deadly CO gas is in your home.

## Be Safe from Drowning

- Drowning can happen very quickly. You will not hear it happening. Stay where you can see and touch your child when he or she is in or near any standing water. **Picture 4**
- If you have a pool, put a high fence all the way around it, making sure no doors from your house open to the pool. Use a fence with a self-closing and self-latching gate. Always keep the gate locked when no adult is there to carefully supervise children.

